

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 021328

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LONDON ROME ATHENS PARIS MINOT AFB FROBISHER AB

SONDRESTROM AB KEFLAVIK INFO BONN DAF DOD 28 JAN.

QUOTE

UNCLAS STATE 021328

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TSPA:OCLR

SUBJECT: CLEARANCE REQUEST FOR NASA LEAR JET

PASS PARIS NASA EUROPEAN REPRESENTATIVE

1. NASA IS COOPERATING WITH GERMANY IN A SOUNDING ROCKET PROJECT (PROJECT PORCUPINE) TO STUDY COUPLING BETWEEN EARTH'S MAGNETOSPHERE AND IONOSPHERE. PROJECT DIRECTED BY MAX PLANCK INSTITUT FUR PHYSIK AND ASTROPHYSIK USING U.S./GERMAN JOINTLY DEVELOPED ARIES SOUNDING ROCKET. TWO ROCKETS WILL BE LAUNCHED FROM ESRANGE (SWEDEN) IN MARCH 1976 CARRYING NUMBER OF PARTICLE AND FIELD DETECTORS AND UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 021328

ACTIVE WAVE AND PLASMA INJECTION EXPERIMENTS. DATA

COLLECTED WILL THEN BE CORRELATED WITH DATA OBTAINED FROM NASA ATS-6 AND GEOS SATELLITES.

2. SOUNDING ROCKETS WILL ALSO CARRY BARIUM ION JET EXPERIMENT IN WHICH TWO CANISTERS, EACH CONTAINING BARIUM SHAPED CHARGES WILL BE EJECTED FROM THE SOUNDING ROCKET AND EXPLODED AT APPROXIMATELY 450 KM ALTITUDE. DUE TO IONIZATION BY SOLAR UV LIGHT, A VISIBLE BARIUM ION JET WILL BE FORMED. THIS JET WILL BE TRAPPED IN THE EARTH'S MAGNETIC FIELD AND WILL TRAVEL UPWARD ALONG THE MAGNETIC LINES OF

FORCE UNTIL THEY RE-ENTER EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE AT CONJUGATE POINT IN ANTARCTIC. JETS BECOME FAINT RAPIDLY SO THAT THEY CAN ONLY BE OBSERVED WITH SENSITIVE OPTICAL INSTRUMENTS EQUIPPED WITH NARROW INTERFERENCE FILTERS.

3. PLAN IS FOR NASA LEAR JET AIRCRAFT EQUIPPED WITH OPTICAL SYSTEM TO FLY ALONG FLIGHT PATH TO PROVIDE CONTINUOUS OPTICAL COVERAGE OF BARIUM TRAIL AGAINST STAR BACKGROUND FOR APPROXIMATELY FIRST 1,000 SECONDS FOLLOWING RELEASE.

4. AIRCRAFT IS U.S. PUBLIC LAW AIRCRAFT NASA-OWNED AND OPERATED LEAR JET MODEL 24B, S/N 102 REGISTRY NUMBER N 705NA.

5. AIRCRAFT WILL STAGE FROM ATHENS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ATHENS, GREECE FOR THREE-WEEK PERIOD STARTING MARCH 13, 1976. SERIES OF REHERSAL FLIGHTS WILL BE CONDUCTED BEGINNING MARCH 15 TO ALLOW CREW TO COORDINATE FLIGHT ROUTE WITH LOCAL AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL AGENCIES AND EXPERIMENTERS TO CHECK OUT OPTICAL EQUIPMENT. AIRCRAFT WILL THEN BE ON STANDBY EVERY DAY DURING LAUNCH WINDOW (MARCH 17 TO APRIL 3) UNTIL TWO LAUNCHES ARE ACCOMPLISHED. LAUNCHINGS WILL BE MADE DURING EARLY EVENING (APPROXIMATELY 1830 UT) WITH DAILY WINDOW OF APPROXIMATELY TWO HOURS IN DURATION. PROFICIENCY FLIGHTS SIMULATING OBSERVATIONS WILL BE MADE EVERY SECOND DAY IN ORDER TO KEEP ALL SYSTEMS AND CREWS AT PEAK READINESS.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 021328

6. FOR MISSION AND REHERSALS AIRCRAFT WILL FLY WESTWARD FROM ATHENS TOWARD PATRAI, GREECE CLIMBING TO OBSERVING ALTITUDE OF 41,000 FT (12.5 KM). AIRCRAFT WILL THEN LOITER AT THIS POINT IF HOLDS IN LAUNCH DICTATE. AIRCRAFT WILL THEN DEPART ON HEADING OF 280 DEGREES AND VIDEO RECORD BARIUM ION TRAILS AS THEY STREAM SOUTHWARD. LEAR WILL THEN RETURN TO ATHENS OR ARAXOS AIRFIELD, PATRAI GREECE AS ALTERNATE.

7. AIRCRAFT REQUIRES COMMUNICATIONS LINK WITH LAUNCH BASE IN SWEDEN TO COORDINATE STATUS OF ROCKET LAUNCH WITH AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS. PROJECT WILL ARRANGE LINK BETWEEN KIRUNA AND AIRCRAFT BASE IN ATHENS. NASA PERSONNEL WILL THEN WORK WITH LOCAL GREEK AUTHORITIES TO ARRANGE GROUND-TO-AIR LINK BY HF OR VHF RADIO BETWEEN ATHENS AND LEAR JET.

8. INSTRUMENTATION ABROAD AIRCRAFT INCLUDES IMAGE ORTHICON CAMERA, ASSOCIATED ELECTRONICS, VIDEO RECORDER, GYRO STABILIZED MIRROR SYSTEM (HELIOSTAT), INERTIAL NAVI-

GATION SYSTEM AND SECONDARY VIDEO SYSTEM CONSISTING OF COHU ISIT CAMERA AND VIDEO RECORDER. PRIMARY SYSTEM HAS 15 DEGREE FIELD OF VIEW AND WILL SCAN FROM 25 TO 60 DEGREES FROM HORIZONTAL. SECONDARY SYSTEM WILL BE FIXED MOUNTED WITH 40 DEGREE FIELD OF VIEW FROM MINUS 10 TO PLUS 30 DEGREES.

9. AIRCRAFT IS RANGE LIMITED AND WILL REQUIRE MULTIPLE STOPS ENROUTE TO AND FROM GREECE. FOLLOWING IS PLANNED ITINERARY TO GREECE. IT WOULD BE REVERSED ON RETURN TRIP TO U.S.:

DEPART	LOCATION	REMARKS
MARCH 8	MINOT AFB, N. DAKOTA	REFUEL
MARCH 8	FORT CHURCHILL, CANADA	REFUEL, RON
MARCH 9	FROBISHER BAY, CANADA	REFUEL

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 021328

MARCH 9	SONDRESTROM, GREENLAND	REFUEL, RON
MARCH 10	KEFLAVIK, ICELAND	REFUEL
MARCH 10	LONDON	REFUEL, RON
MARCH 11	ROME	REFUEL

MARCH 11 - APR 3 ATHENS

10. AT EACH STOPOVER AIRCRAFT NEEDS 600 GALLONS OF JP-4 OR 5 FUEL AND FUEL ADDITIVE QUOTE PRIST UNQUOTE. POWER CART WITH CURRENT LIMITED TO 900 AMPS REQUIRED FOR STARTING ENGINE. HANGAR FACILITIES ALSO REQUIRED.

11. EXPEDITION TEAM ACCOMPANYING AIRCRAFT WILL CONSIST OF APPROXIMATELY 12 MEMBERS.

12. EQUIPMENT WILL NOT REPEAT NOT BE OPERATED DURING FERRYING FLIGHTS.

13. PILOT WILL FILE INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT PLANS.

14. DATA CAN BE MADE AVAILABLE TO HOST GOVERNMENTS IF REQUESTED.

15. AIRCRAFT AND EXPERIMENT EQUIPMENT WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION BY REPRESENTATIVES OF HOST GOVERNMENTS AT ANY PROPOSED LANDING SITE IF DESIRED.

16. FOR ATHENS: PLEASE SECURE REQUIRED CLEARANCES AND ADVISE.

17. FOR ALL ACTION ADDRESSEES--EXCEPT PARIS: PLEASE ASCERTAIN AVAILABILITY OF FUEL AND FACILITIES AND ADVISE.

18. FOR EACH STOP ENROUTE ATHENS: PLEASE OBTAIN LANDING, OVERFLIGHT CLEARANCES PLUS OR MINUS 48 HOURS. AS RETURN DATES CANNOT BE DETERMINED AT THIS TIME PLEASE SECURE RETURN CLEARANCE IN PRINCIPLE. (FLIGHT PLANS WILL BE FILED.)

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UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 021328

19. FOR PARIS: PLEASE SECURE OVERFLIGHT CLEARANCES. KISSINGER

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